



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY RE-ENTERING THE U.S., POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national was sentenced in federal court today for illegally re-entering the United States and for being a felon in possession of firearms.

Jose Inez Hyder-Medina, a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to one year and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 27, 2004, **Hyder-Medina** pleaded guilty to illegally re-entering the United States after having been previously deported in 1995 and 1998. **Hyder-Medina** also pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of two firearms. By pleading guilty, **Hyder-Medina** admitted that he was in possession of a Winchester .22 caliber rifle and a J.C. Higgins 16-gauge shotgun on Oct. 1, 2003, in Callaway County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm. **Hyder-Medina** has a 1991 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance in California.

Hyder-Medina was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 7, 2003, in Jefferson City. The original indictment was later replaced by a superseding indictment, which was returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 12, 2003, in Jefferson City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence E. Miller. It was investigated by the St. Louis, Mo., Metropolitan Police Department, the Fulton, Mo., Police Department, the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow